WE SWEAT A LOT TODAY'S LESSON TOO.
I JUST CAN'T SEEM TO REMEMBER THE CHO-REOGRA-PHY
YOU'VE GOTTA MEMORIZE THE DANCE SO YOU DON'T THROW OFF THE SONG.
シャコ
U-UU~ THE BUBBLES FEEL GOOD~♪
HEY, YAYOI, DON'T USE MY SHAM-POO!

LESSON 17
レッスン

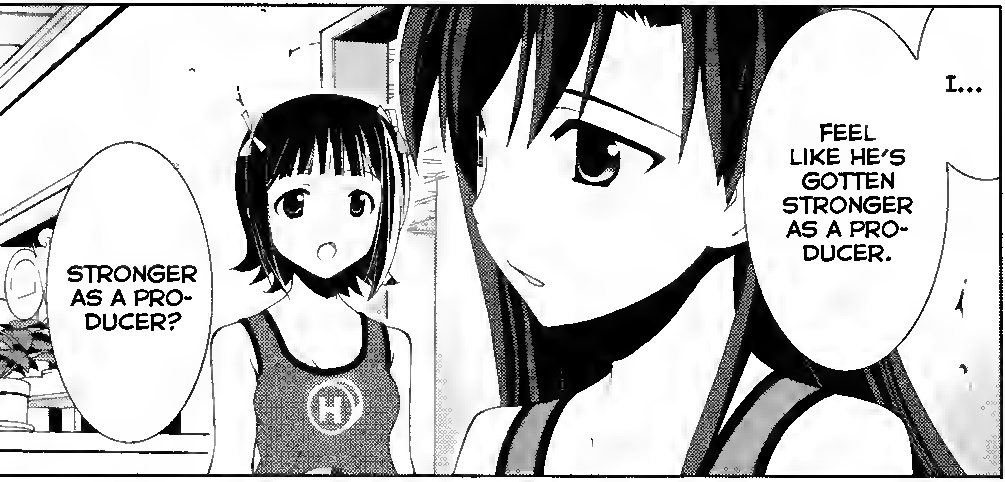
LESSON 17 : The King is Alone

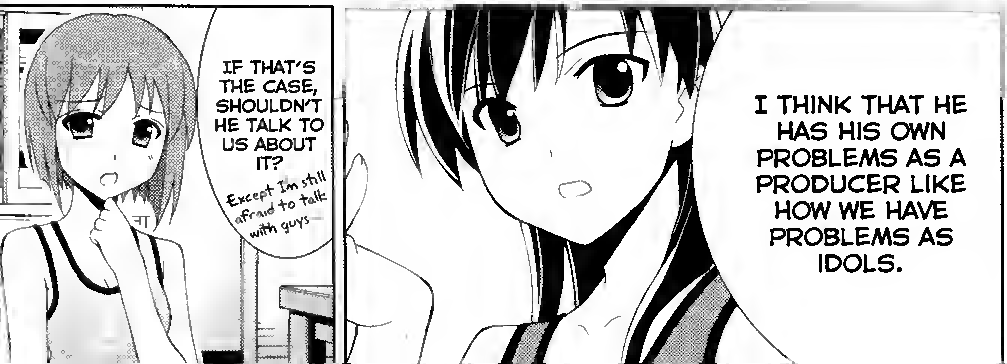
レッスン

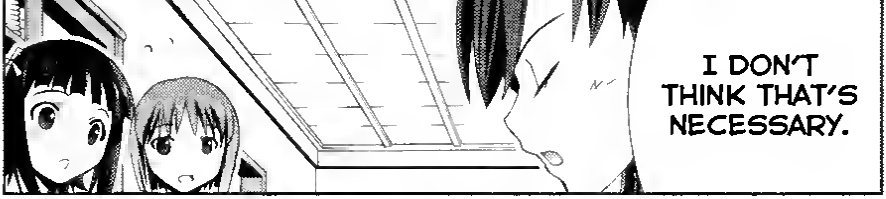
LATELY I THINK YUUTAROU-KUN HAS BEEN ACTING UNUSUAL. IS IT JUST MY IMAGINATION?
Y-YEAH
WELL...

I FEEL LIKE HE'S ACTING LIKE I DO WHEN I WORRY BECAUSE THINGS DIDN'T WORK OUT WELL FOR ME.

ONCE IN A WHILE PRODUCER DOESN'T RESPOND WHEN I TALK TO HIM... DO I TALK TOO SOFTLY...?
IT'S NOT. EVEN THOUGH I TALKED TO HIM, HE'S STILL ACTING ABSENT-MINDED!


STRONGER AS A PRODUCER?
I... FEEL LIKE HE'S GOTTEN STRONGER AS A PRODUCER.


IF THAT'S THE CASE, SHOULDN'T HE TALK TO US ABOUT IT?
Except I'm still afraid to talk with guys...
I THINK THAT HE HAS HIS OWN PROBLEMS AS A PRODUCER LIKE HOW WE HAVE PROBLEMS AS IDOLS.


I DON'T THINK THAT'S NECESSARY.

I-I'M JUST TALKING FROM MY EXPERIENCE...!
Ehehe, you don't have to be embarrassed about it
UU~ YOU'RE SO COOL, CHIHAYA-SAN!
Also, I'm not embarrassed!

IT CAN SOMETIMES DO THE OPPOSITE AND ONLY MAKES THINGS DIFFICULT.
...WHEN I'M TRYING TO THINK THINGS OVER AND I'M TOLD WARM WORDS

I'M A LITTLE INTERESTED IN WHAT HE'S WORRYING OVER.

WE SHOULD GET TO SLEEP SOON SO WE CAN SHOW UP IN PERFECT CONDITION!
BESIDES ALL THIS, WE'VE GOT A RARE BIG JOB TOMORROW!

YEAH...

THE EVENT SCENE
WE'RE REALLY OWE THEM FOR THIS JOB, SO MAKE SURE TO LEAVE A GOOD FIRST IMPRESSION.
I'D LIKE FOR EVERYONE TO GET INTO THEIR OUTFITS SOON. HAVE YOU DECIDED WHAT EACH GIRL'S GOING TO WEAR?
TODAY'S THE GAME'S PRESENTATION, RIGHT?
YEAH, THEY'RE GOING ON TO SING SING THE THEME SONG OF THE GAME DRESSED AS IT'S MASCOTS.
...EH? THAT WAS TODAY'S JOB?
IT IS... DON'T TELL ME. YOU FORGOT?
H-HEY, YUUTAROU-KUN...!?
I-IT'LL BE OKAY! I'LL MAKE SURE TO GET IT DONE MY WAY!

AH, PRODUCER-SAN!
WHAT'LL I DO ABOUT THIS!
THIS IS BAD... I WAS PREOCCUPIED ON WHAT MIKI SAID TO ME AND TOTALLY FORGOT...
ごっちゃり。
HEY, WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS!?
W-WELL, I WANT EACH OF YOU TO PUT ON ONE OF THESE OUTFITS AND GO ON STAGE!
ALSO, WE'RE SHORT ON TIME... WE HAVE TO QUICKLY DECIDE BASED ON INTUITION!
AS LONG AS I CAN SING A SONG...
A-ANYWAY, LET'S GET STARTED NOW!
FIRST... YUKIHO WILL WEAR THIS!
O-OKAY ...?
HARUKA WILL...

C'MON! IF YOU DO THIS LIKE YOU ALWAYS DO, IT'LL TURN OUT FINE.
O-OKAY, THIS'LL DO!

A-ANYWAY, DO YOUR BEST!
I THINK I'LL END UP DIGGING MORE HOLES THAN USUAL~
THIS ISN'T LIKE ME AT ALL!

I-IT'S YOUR TIME, EV-ERYONE!!
NOW IT'S TIME FOR TODAY'S GUESTS TO GET ON STAGE. "765 WINGS" WILL BE THE MASCOTS AND SING THE THEME SONG TO "BANNAM ALL-STARS!"

D-PLEASURE TO BE HERE...
A VERY DEEP CULTURE.
D-DAY-DREAMS BROADEN THE MIND!
SMILE, YORITOMO!
THE FUN STARTS NOW!
IT'S UNSTOP-PABLE... ONWARD TO THE UNENDING SKY...!
WON'T YOU OPEN THE DOOR TO A DISTANT TIME?
T-THIS IS GOING PRETTY GOOD, ISN'T IT?

I HOPE YOU'LL GET BANNAM'S ALLSTARS!
DREAMS, FUN, EMOTION!

D-DON'T COME THIS WAY!
Y-YAYOI... AWAWA-WA!

EH!?
-ALL-STARS!
WAAH...

KYAA! UWAAAH!
AH! STOP, IF YOU GRAB ON TO ME WHILE I'M WEAR-ING THIS...

しっかり。
女の子=すなぉ…
GOTCHA. ARE YOU OKAY?
Y-YES. THANK YOU VERY MUCH...
AH
グラ…
KYAAAAA!! I'M AFRAID OF MEN!!
GAH!
I'M SORRY~ ♥
WHO WOULD'VE THOUGHT THIS WOULD HAPPEN...
AH, WHA-!?
UU... IS EV-ERYONE OKAY-?
MY IMAGE IS RUINED! THIS ISN'T LIKE ME AT ALL!

765 WING'S NEXT APPEARANCE WILL BE A SINGING SEGMENT!
W-WHAT DO YOU THINK?
SLAPSTICK IS THE APPEAL OF THE GIRLS...
WELL, I WON'T CALL IT BAD, BUT...
ISN'T THIS A CASE OF NOT MAKING THE BEST OF THE PERSONALITIES OF THE GIRLS?
I-I'M SORRY...
IF I KNEW THIS WAS GOING TO HAPPEN, I WOULD'VE ASKED 961 PRO, EVEN IF THEY WERE BUSY.
!

YUUTAROU-KUN!?
!!
IT'S BECAUSE I DIDN'T DO MY JOB THAT HAPPENED ON STAGE...
A!! A!!
A!! A!!
IT'S MY FAULT...
IT'S BECAUSE I WAS ACTING LIKE THAT...
IF I HAD DONE MY JOB, EVERYONE WOULD'VE BEEN ABLE TO WORK LIKE USUAL...!
EVERYONE'S MESSING UP...!
OW, OW...
I-I'M SORRY, I WAS...
!!
AH!

EH...!?
YOU'RE FROM 765 PRO, RIGHT!?
A BASIC OF PROMOTIONS IS A SMILE. MAKING SUCH A DEPRESSED FACE LIKE THAT IS NO GOOD!

YOU'VE GOTTA SMILE WHEN THINGS ARE DIFFICULT.
"GOOD FORTUNE AND HAPPINESS WILL COME TO THOSE WHO SMILE," RIGHT?
ALSO, YOU WERE MAKING A PRETTY UNCOOL FACE EARLIER.
JUST HOW DO YOU THINK EVERYONE AT 765 PRO SMILES WHEN TIMES ARE TOUGH?
N-NO WAY I COULD JUST SMILE OUT OF THE BLUE! EVEN NOW, HOW COULD I SMILE AFTER YOU PINCHED ME LIKE...

I HAVE NO IDEA!
THEN WHY DON'T YOU ASK THEM?
ALSO, IF YOU WERE TO LOSE YOUR INDEPENDENT NATURE HERE...
YOU'D END UP BEING LEFT BEHIND BY EVERYONE AS THEY CONTINUE TO GROW.
A-AS IF I COULD DO THAT...!
DON'T BE SO WIMPY.
EH...!?
THE ANSWER'S CLOSER THAN YOU THINK!
...SEE YOU LATER.

W-WHAT WAS UP WITH HER... MEETING SOMEONE FOR THE FIRST TIME AND DOING THAT TO THEIR FACE...
チャ!
WHERE WERE YOU?
AH, PRODUCER-SAN, GOOD WORK TODAY!
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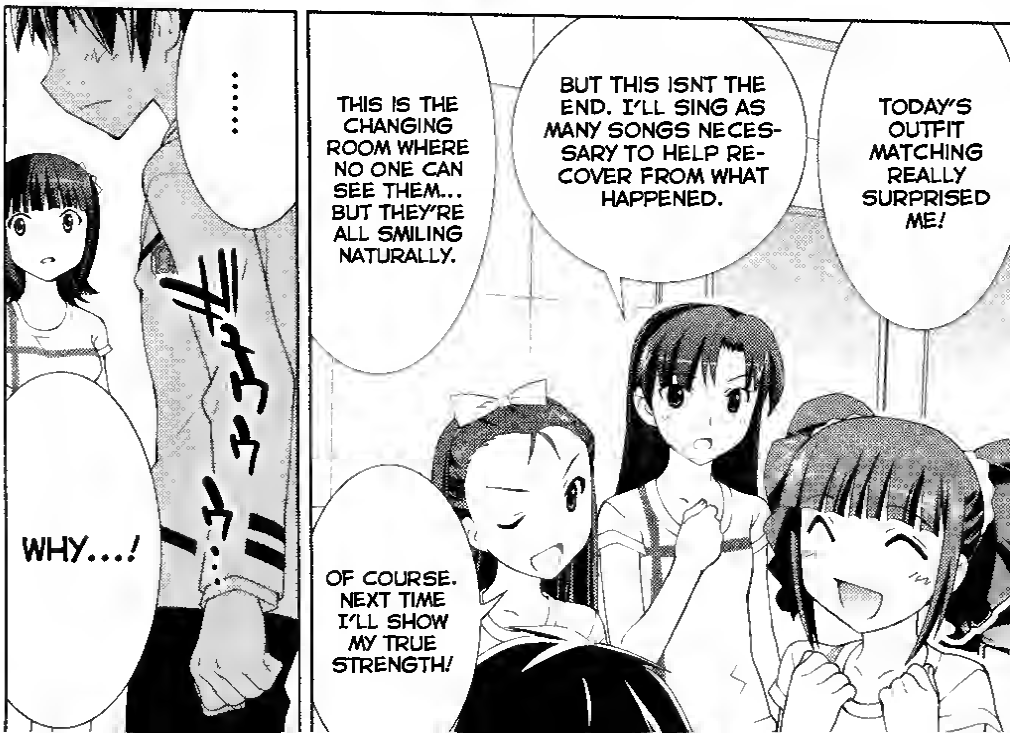
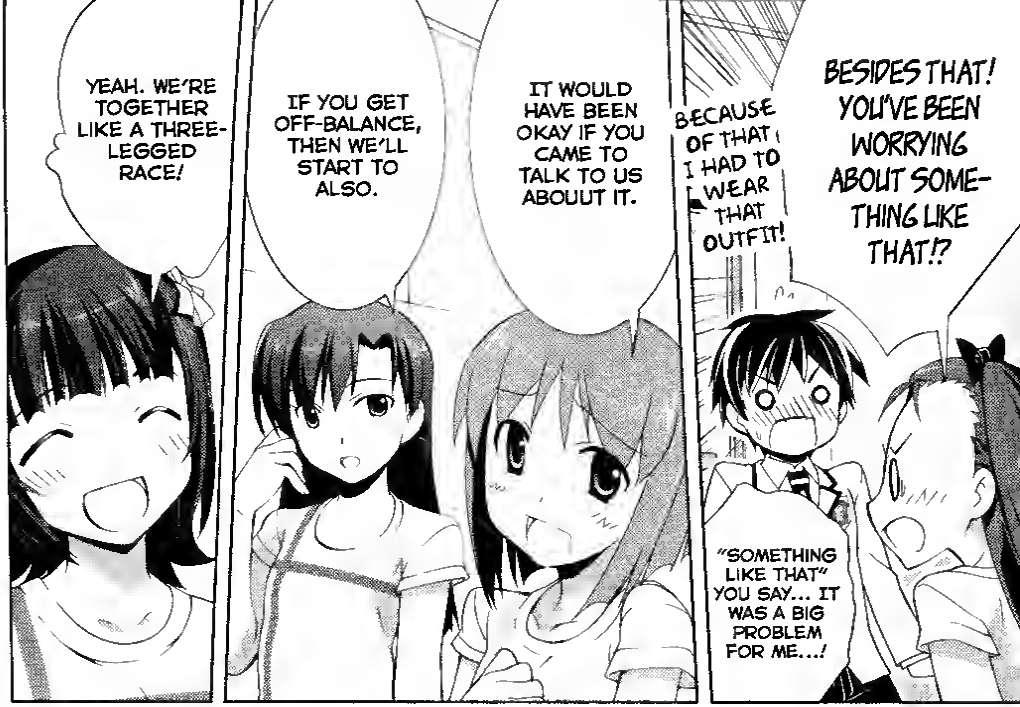
THE PROBLEMS WE HAD JUST NOW SHOULD BE AFFECTING EVERYONE MORE THAN ME...
EH...?


.....
ギュッ
WHY...!
THIS IS THE CHANGING ROOM WHERE NO ONE CAN SEE THEM... BUT THEY'RE ALL SMILING NATURALLY.
BUT THIS ISNT THE END. I'LL SING AS MANY SONGS NECESSARY TO HELP RECOVER FROM WHAT HAPPENED.
TODAY'S OUTFIT MATCHING REALLY SURPRISED ME!
OF COURSE. NEXT TIME I'LL SHOW MY TRUE STRENGTH!

PRODUCER-SAN... YUUTAROU-KUN, LATELY...
YOU HAVEN'T BEEN ACTING LIKE YOURSELF
HARU... KA?
I JUST CAN'T GET IT OUT OF MY MIND...
EVER SINCE WE DEBUTED... 961 PRO HAS ALWAYS BEEN ONE STEP AHEAD OF US.
765 PRO WAS FOUNDED USING GRANDPA'S METHODS... BUT THE OTHER DAY, AT THE AUDITION, OUR CHANCE WAS TAKEN BY 961 PRO.
AND IT WAS OUR FORMER 765 PRO'S MIKI.
AT THAT TIME MIKI TOLD ME, "I THINK I CAN UNDERSTAND WHAT PRESIDENT KUROI MEANT WHEN HE SAID, 'KINGS ARE ALWAYS LONELY.'"
IT'S BEEN BUGGING ME THE ENTIRE TIME...

ENOUGH THAT I COULDN'T DO MY WORK. AND TODAY I MADE YOU ALL DO THAT... AND YET...
WE MESSED UP SO MUCH, HOW CAN YOU ALL SMILE LIKE THAT!?
I JUST DON'T GET IT...
WHAT CAN I DO TO BE LIKE YOU ALL...!
...I SHOULD BE APOLOGIZING TO YOU ALL, INSTEAD I'M LASHING OUT AT YOU...!
I'M THE WORST...!

THOUGH WE MAY BE LAIDBACK, WE'RE STILL MOVING FORWARD.
AT FIRST IT WAS PRESSURE... BUT LITTLE BY LITTLE I'M STARTING TO FEEL CONFIDENT...
I THINK MINASE-SAN'S IS A BIT EXTREME, BUT... I JUST IMAGINE MYSELF AFTER MY DREAM HAS COME TRUE.
WELL OF COURSE IT'S BECAUSE I JUST IMAGINE ALL OF THE FANS KNEELING BEFORE ME AS A TOP IDOL!
ALSO, IT'S ONLY NATURAL TO FEEL A HAPPY AFTER YOU GOT ALL OF THOSE FANS TO SEE US!
EH...!?
YOU WERE THE ONE WHO HELPED US DO THAT, PRODUCER-SAN.
M-ME... ALSO...
SHE'S RIGHT.
ME TOO!


BESIDES THAT! YOU'VE BEEN WORRYING ABOUT SOMETHING LIKE THAT!?
BECAUSE OF THAT, I HAD TO WEAR THAT OUTFIT!
"SOMETHING LIKE THAT" YOU SAY... IT WAS A BIG PROBLEM FOR ME...!
IT WOULD HAVE BEEN OKAY IF YOU CAME TO TALK TO US ABOUUT IT.
IF YOU GET OFF-BALANCE, THEN WE'LL START TO ALSO.
YEAH. WE'RE TOGETHER LIKE A THREE-LEGGED RACE!

AH, BUT THERE ARE SIX OF US... THERE ARE TOO MANY LEGS... HOW MANY LEGS ARE THERE IN TOTAL ANYWAY...?

PRODUCER-SAN
あはは…

...YEAH
R-REALLY...
BECOMING LONELY IS HOW YOU WERE ACTING EARLIER AND WEREN'T ABLE TO SMILE...IT'S JUST TOO SAD.
EVEN IF YOU BECAME A KING, I WOULDN'T WANT YOU TO BECOME LONELY.
SHE'S RIGHT. YOU SHOULD THINK ABOUT STYLE A BIT MORE...
JEEZ, IF WE LEFT IT UP TO YOUR SENSES, WE'D HAVE NOTHING NICE!
スミマセン
あはは…
IN YAYOI'S CASE, I'M SURE THERE ARE A LOT OF OUTFITS SHE'S NEVER WORN.
THOUGH WE GOT TO WEAR SOME OUTFITS THAT WE'VE NEVER WORN BEFORE.

YUU-TAROU-KUN...
KOTORI-SAN... YOU'RE SEEING THE FRUIT OF YOUR LABOR HERE.
IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE WE'VE WATCHED FROM SOME-WHERE BESIDES BACKSTAGE.
WOW, THERE ARE SO MANY PEOPLE HERE. ARE THEY ALL HERE FOR THE GIRLS?
OH, IT STARTED!
THANK YOU ALL FOR COMING TO OUR LIVE SHOW TODAY!
WITHOUT FURTHER ADO
THE SONG IS...

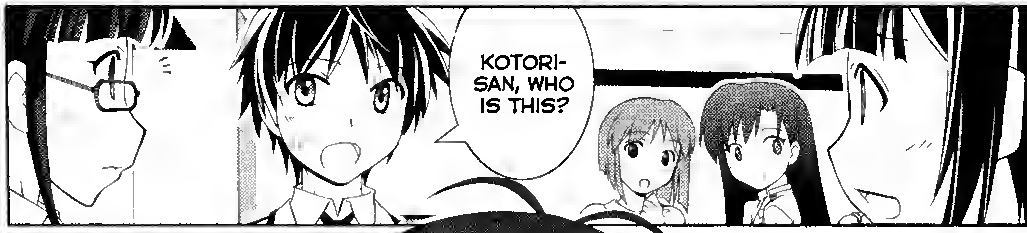
BUT EVERYONE'S SHINING MORE THAN THEY ARE AT THAT TIME!
OH YEAH... THIS IS WHERE I FIRST SAW EVERYONE.
THERE WERE MORE PEOPLE AND THE STAGE WAS MORE BRILLIANT AT THAT TIME...
EVERYONE'S DREAM IS TO BE TOP IDOL. THAT MAY BE THE MEANING OF 'KING' THOUGH.
WE'LL COMPETE
WE'LL WORK HARD TOGETHER
WE'LL LAUGH AND CRY TOGETH-ER.
BUT THE KING DOESN'T HAVE TO BE LONELY
LET'S AIM BIGGER! LET'S ALL AIM TO BECOME KINGS!

BUT IN THE END WE'LL BE UNIFIED...
THAT'S HOW WE DO IT AT 765 PRO!

YEAH, THAT'S HOW IT SHOULD BE.

OKAY, WE'LL KEEP UP THIS PACE.
THIS IS MORE PROOF OF OUR WORK...
UWAH... THERE ARE MORE FAN LETTERS THAN USUAL!
YEAH, BUT TAKING CARE OF THINGS IN THE DORMS ARE DIFFICULT, SO I JUST DON'T HAVE TIME.
BUT BEFORE THAT, THIS OFFICE NEEDS SOME ORGANIZATION... EVERYTHING'S DISORGANIZED.
You should make everything more efficient
Y-YOU!? SINCE WHEN HAVE YOU!?
UWAAAAH!!!
YOU'RE QUITE ABSENTMINDED. I'VE BEEN HERE FOR A WHILE. I WAS AT THAT DESK OVER THERE. ALSO, ABOUT THE DOCUMENTS...
AH, THERE HE IS. YUUTAROU-KUN.
ガチャ!

I TOLD I'D SHOW YOU AROUND THE OFFICE AFTER I INTRODUCED YOU!
I JUST COULDN'T HOLD BACK. IT WAS A MESS, LIKE I THOUGHT.
This one says "To Yukiho-chan"
Ah, these are all fan letters for me!?
AH, KOTORI-SAN! THERE'S SOMEONE I DON'T KNOW IN THE OFFICE!


KOTORI-SAN, WHO IS THIS?

I'M AKIZUKI RITSUKO. 18 YEARS OLD. I'LL TRY MY BEST WHILE WORKING AS AN IDOL! NICE TO MEET YOU ALL!
LET ME INTRO-DUCE YOU NOW. SHE'S GOING TO BE PART OF 765 PRO AS OF TODAY. AKIZUKI RITSUKO.
EEEE—!!!